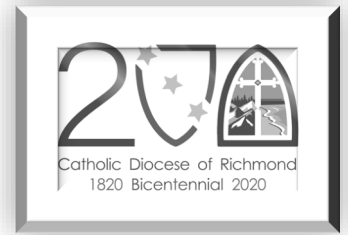


OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

3570 KING WILLIAM AVENUE, WEST POINT VA 23181



SCHEDULE for HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday Mass - 9:00 am
Mass of the Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday) 7:00 pm
Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Good Friday) 7:00 pm
Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday) - 8:00 pm
Easter Sunday Mass - 9:00 am

PARISH OFFICES at the MERCY CENTER
207 W. Euclid Blvd., West Point, VA 23181
Phone: 843-3125 Fax: 843-9158

Office Hours: T W Th 10 - 4:30

Parish e-mail: olbs@olbs-catholic.org

Parish Web address: www.olbs-catholic.org

Father Oscar is planning to livestream the Masses for Palm Sunday and Holy Thursday, the Good Friday Service, the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Mass through the Church's Facebook page. If you are already a member of the OLBS group, you are all set.

If you are not a member, it is easy to become a member. Type in <https://www.facebook.com/groups/237765969363/> and create an account (name, email, and birthdate are the only items of information required). Once you hit the blue "join" button, it will send a message to the administrator. You will shortly receive a notification that you have been accepted as part of the group.

The OLBS Facebook Page has the 200 Years Logo from the Diocese - you cannot miss it! Then follow the link to the Mass.

PASTOR
Rev. Oscar Paraiso 757-778-5118
Rectory 843-4231
Office 843-3125 ext 102
Email: oparaiso@richmonddiocese.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Pam Watkins 843-3125 ext 101
Hours: T-W-Th 10 - 4:30
Email: adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org

BUSINESS MANAGER 843-3125 ext 104
Bob Ryalls 757 207-0125
E-mail: businessmgr@olbs-catholic.org

COORDINATOR of CHRISTIAN FORMATION
Lorraine Ryalls 843-3125 ext 103
Email: DRE@olbs-catholic.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR
Leda Zaginaylo 757 870-2516
Email: music@olbs-catholic.org

PRESCHOOL TEACHER/DIRECTOR
Vangy Lawson 843-4177
Email: preschool@olbs-catholic.org

GOOD NEIGHBOR CENTER
Frances Thornton 843-4339
Hours: M 10 am - 2 pm
W 12:30 pm - 2:30 p.m.

van den BOOGAARD HALL RENTALS
Janice McGowan 843-2870
Email: hallrentals@olbs-catholic.org

SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Also by appointment

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday and Tuesday
Mercy Center Chapel

First Friday at the Mercy Center Chapel
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

OUTREACH

A food basket and donation box are in the church entry. Your donations provide the means to give direct help to the needy. We collect food on the first weekend of the month.

INFANT BAPTISM

Parent preparation classes are required for each couple planning to have their baby baptized. To schedule a preparation session, please call the church office.

MARRIAGE

OLBS sponsors a preparation program for couples who intend to marry. The Pastor must be contacted at least six months prior to the date of the wedding.

RECEPTION into the CHURCH

Those inquiring into the Catholic Faith or seeking communion with the Church are invited to contact the Parish Office. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is offered.

The mission of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, centered in the Eucharist, is to love God and His people and to extend His love to others through service and prayer.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

APRIL 4th & 5th, 2020



Sat	4/4 – Ed Kopacki (RIP) Anniversary of Death on 4/11 Requested by Virginia Kopacki	Fr. Oscar
Sun	4/5 – Annie Geron (RIP) Requested by Donna Geron	Fr. Oscar
Mon	4/6 – No Mass	
Tue	4/7 – James Geron (RIP) Requested by Donna Geron	Fr. Oscar
Wed	4/8 – Joe, Sr; Elsie & Johnny Drexler (RIP) Requested by Joe & Linda Drexler	Fr. Oscar
Thurs	4/9 – No Mass Intentions	
Fri	4/10 – no Mass Intentions	
Sat	4/11 – Special Intention Requested by Edna Trudeau	Fr. Oscar
Sun	4/12 – Michael & Shirley (RIP) Requested by Arlene Lasch	Fr. Oscar

*****BY THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP: ALL PUBLIC MASSES ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

All Mass Intentions will be celebrated by Father Oscar during his daily private Mass.

Collections as of April 1st, 2020

Parish Operations	\$2,995.00
Supplemental Collection	2,550.00
Parish Heating	10.00
Poor Box	91.29
Easter Flowers	30.00
Total	\$5,676.29
Amount needed weekly for Parish Operations is	\$3,940
Restricted, Special Use or Sent out of Parish	
Diocesan Collection – Catholic Relief Services	\$100.00
Facilities Repairs & Maintenance Fund	\$110.00
Haiti Ministry	\$310.00
Maintenance Savings	\$70.00
Cemetery Fund	\$10.00

Church Access for Prayers

Anyone who would like to pray or have other devotional practices in the Church between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday through Friday, are asked to please contact the Mercy Center Office at 804-843-3125 first or you may contact Father Oscar's cell phone 757-778-5118 to arrange for access to the Church.

*For the latest information, visit our Website at www.olbs-catholic.org or our Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/237765969363/>.

***Thank you to all the parishioners who have brought into the office or mailed their weekly contributions allowing us to continue critical operations. We realize it is not the ideal situation; however, our parish office remains open for you to be able to bring or mail your weekly donations. To mail your donations, please mail to Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 207 West Euclid Blvd., West Point, VA 23181. Or, you can drop your offertory in the white box marked 'Boogaard Hall' located on the back porch of the Mercy Center. You can also temporarily give online at <https://offertory.richmonddiocese.org/>. Choose our Parish through the Drop-Down - OLBS #623. This will ensure the proceeds go only to our parish. Thank you for your continued support of our parish.

***During this difficult time, we all continue to look for ways to remain close to Jesus, His Blessed Mother, and His Church. In addition to its online edition, MAGNIFICAT is now offering complimentary access to its iOS and Android Apps throughout May. To register for FREE access in English, visit www.magnificat.com/free. For FREE access in Spanish, visit and register at www.magnificat.com/gratis. We are also happy to make available complimentary access to MAGNIFIKID. Visit www.magnifikid.com/free to view and download each weekly booklet of their colorful Sunday missalette for children ages 6-12. While so many children are missing formal religious instruction and are unable to attend Mass, MagnifiKid! Can be their special guide, accompanying them through each week as they prepare to attend Mass or watch it at home.

***By Diocese of Richmond directive, no more than 10 people may be in the church at the same time and must maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet.

Some Links for Masses

- www.CatholicTV.org/Masses
- <https://DailyTVMass.com>
- <https://wordonfire.org>
- <https://theSundayMass.org>

Prayer & Worship: www.cdrworship.org/coronavirus

***If you would like to be added to the weekly phone chain or email to stay informed and connected to our parish, please call the parish office Tuesdays-Thursday 10am until 4:30pm at 804-843-3125.

***If you would like to put something in the bulletin, please email to olbs@olbs-catholic.org no later than noon each Tuesday or call the parish office at 804-843-3125.



PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND GOOD HEALTH

Emily Adams	Elizabeth Alley	Candace Barefoot
Virginia Becker	Paulette Berberich	Ron Blevins
Jon Boyette	Robin Bristow	Joan Buehler
Linda Burch	Kevin Carson	Lucy Carson
Tim Collier	Meredith Crow	Eric Crump
Vincent D'elia	Denise DePompeo	Dale Dippre
Dexter Dix	Donna Donahue	Larry Dzula, Jr.
Michelle Eshelman	Amanda Leigh Fincher	Henry Franzyszen
Kelli Gaeta	Margaret Geron	Jim Gregory
Pat Hinkle	Kelly Hipple	Tom Hollowak
Mary Ann Hooper	Gail Justin	John Kellam
Bill Kessler	Gloria Kojcisch	Bonnie Kopacki
Gordon Langston	Patricia Lanuza	Kenny McGinley
Bill Madigan	Baby Vivian Mallis	Ron Martz
Clara Morrow	Randy Morrow	Specialist Mullins
Marilyn Naggy	Larry Newtzie	Desiree Page
Brett Pickens	Pam Rigsby	Mark A. Roane
Debbie Royals	Virginia Ryczak	Bill Scaife
Jack Scaife	Barbara Schafer	James Simmons
Allen Smith	Levi Sturtz	Jim Tokarz
Mae Touray	Chris Vincent, Sr.	Gloria Wajciechowski
Linda Webster	Art West	Emmett White
James Wills	Lois Wilson	Robert 'Bobby' Wilson
Jody Zogran		

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY

Major Jonathan Culberson (Afghanistan)

Church Cleaning Schedule

- 4/6 thru 4/12 – Tom & Rowena Fauber
- 4/13 thru 4/19 – Gary & Jackie Silvia
- 4/20 thru 4/26 – Our Hispanic Community



“Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord!”

Are you being called to proclaim Jesus as a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister? Call Father Brian Capuano at 804-359-5661 or email:

vocations@richmonddiocese.org.



ARE YOU IN NEED OF PRAYER? DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE IN NEED OF PRAYER? Please contact the prayer chain to request any prayers needed. Anonymous Prayer Requests accepted. Contact: On Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, please contact Pam Watkins at the Church office at 804-843-3125 from 10:15 am through 4:30 pm. Any other times, please contact Pam Watkins at 919-820-1986 (cell phone).

2020 Annual Appeal Update: As of 3/26/2020, we have raised 67.13% or \$6,767.00 of our goal of \$10,080.00 and have collected 51.30% or \$5,171.00 of our goal.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Gemma Galgani was an Italian mystic born on March 12, 1878, in a small town near Lucca. At a very young age, Gemma developed a love for prayer. Throughout her life, Gemma was to be chosen with many mystical experiences and special graces, including the stigmata. These were often misunderstood by others, causing ridicule. Gemma suffered heartaches in reparation, remembering that our Lord Himself had been misunderstood and ridiculed. Gemma had an immense love for the poor and helped them in any way she could. Gemma wished to become a nun, but her poor health prevented her from being accepted. She offered the disappointment to God as a sacrifice. In January of 1903, Gemma was diagnosed with tuberculosis. At the start of Holy Week in 1903, Gemma began suffering greatly. She died at age 25 on Holy Saturday, April 11th. The Parish Priest in her company said, “she died with a smile which remained on her lips, so that I could not convince myself that she was really dead.” St. Gemma Galgani was beatified on May 14, 1933 by Pope Pius XI and canonized on May 2, 1940, only 37 years after her death, by Pope Pius XII. She is the patron saint against temptations, against the death of parents, against tuberculosis, of students and of pharmacists. Her feast day is celebrated on April 11th.

DO YOU KNOW?

Crucifixion was invented by the Persians between 300-400 B.C. It is quite possibly the most painful death ever invented by humankind. The English language derives the word “excruciating” from crucifixion, acknowledging it as a form of slow, painful suffering. Its punishment was reserved for slaves, foreigners, revolutionaries, and the vilest of criminals. The word “crucifixion” comes from the Latin “crucifix,” or “crucifixus,” meaning “fixed to a cross.”

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

As we go through Holy Week, let us look very carefully at Jesus our Savior. We watch, not just to admire, but also to learn, to penetrate the mind, the thinking, the attitudes and the values of Jesus so that we, in the very different circumstances of our own lives, may walk in His footsteps. If we are to be His disciples, He invites us to walk His way, to share His sufferings, to imitate His attitudes, to "empty" ourselves, to live in service of others - in short, to love others as He loves us. This is not at all a call to a life of pain and misery. Quite the contrary, it is an invitation to a life of deep freedom, peace, and happiness. If it were anything else, it would not be worth considering.

Adults: How will you try to imitate the obedience and humility of Christ during this Holy Week?

Children: What could you do to show respect for Jesus this week as the Church remembers His Death and Resurrection?



To our couples with anniversaries in April: Paul & Valeria Seckora - 4/5/1997; Thomas & Paulette Berberich - 4/11/1964; Billy & Katie Fudella - 4/25/2015.

The Lord, God is my help. Let God help your marriage to be the Sacrament He intended. Strengthen, renew, and rekindle your marriage sacrament by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on **May 1-3, 2020 in HICKORY, NC** and **Sep 11-13, 2020 in Hickory, NC**. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: <https://renewmarriage-vasouth.org/>

Help Needed!!!

The West Point Meals on Wheels is in desperate need of local volunteer drivers for Wednesday delivery of Meals. Right now there are 8 deliveries with 2 stops that have 3 deliveries. It only takes about an hour out of your Wednesday. Please contact the West Point Meals on Wheels at 804-843-3884. For more information, you can call David Seckora at 804-843-2969 and leave a message. You will get a return call. King William is also in need of volunteers.

From the Knights of Columbus: Crab Meat will be sold for \$13 per pound and 2 pounds for \$25 while supplies last (Some restrictions apply). For those looking for refunds on Crab dinner tickets, you can get a cash refund or 1lb of frozen Crab Meat for each adult ticket while supplies last (some restrictions apply). Call Philip Liberato at 804-512-9701.



Jesus' Death is our Example: "Jesus, who upon entering into the world said: "I have come, O God, to do your will" (cf. Heb 10:9), made himself obedient to the Father in everything and, "having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end" (Jn 13:1), giving himself completely for them. He who had come "not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mk 10:45), attains on the Cross the heights of love: "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (Jn 15:13). And he died for us while we were yet sinners (cf. Rom 5:8). In this way Jesus proclaims that life finds its center, its meaning and its fulfillment when it is given up. At this point our meditation becomes praise and thanksgiving, and at the same time urges us to imitate Christ and follow in his footsteps (cf. 1 Pt 2:21). We too are called to give our lives for our brothers and sisters, and thus to realize in the fullness of truth the meaning and destiny of our existence." -- John Paul II (The Gospel of Life, n. 51) (Priests for Life)

From the Cemetery Committee: A Cemetery Clean-up will take place in a couple of weeks. Please remove all seasonal items if you want to keep them. Items that are left in the Cemetery for Clean up will be thrown away. We need to get ready for Easter and mowing operations. Thank you.



DIocese OF RICHMOND THE SEVENTH BISHOP

FATHER DENIS J O'CONNELL

Father Denis J O'Connell was the seventh bishop of the Diocese of Richmond. Early in his career, Bishop O'Connell had a leading role in the Americanism movement. Americanism held the idea that Catholicism should adapt to the American way of life. Two former bishops of Richmond, Bishop Gibbons and Bishop Keane, were also involved in Americanism.

When the United States entered World War I, the Diocese of Richmond began to see a growth spurt. New parishes were formed in Northern Virginia and the Tidewater area due to the growth in the Catholic population.

While Bishop O'Connell led the diocese, a bureau of Catholic Charities was formed in Richmond in 1922. It was one of the first in the country. This allowed the Richmond Diocese to offer better assistance to the poor in housing, legal matters, and orphanage placement.

Due to ill health, Bishop O'Connell resigned in 1925. He was named an honorary archbishop in 1926, one year before he died.

Mass Readings: Palm Sunday

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

The Lord GOD has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. **The Word of the Lord**

Responsorial Psalm

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me scoff at me; they mock me with parted lips, they wag their heads: "He relied on the LORD; let him deliver him, let him rescue him, if he loves him."

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Indeed, many dogs surround me, a pack of evildoers closes in upon me; They have pierced my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

They divide my garments among them, and for my vesture they cast lots. But you, O LORD, be not far from me; O my help, hasten to aid me.

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

I will proclaim your name to my brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you: "You who fear the LORD, praise him; all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to him; revere him, all you descendants of Israel!"

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped.

Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord

Verse Before the Gospel: Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Jesus stood before the governor, Pontius Pilate, who questioned him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." And when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he made no answer. Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many things they are testifying against you?" But he did not answer him one word, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now on the occasion of the feast the governor was accustomed to release to the crowd one prisoner whom they wished. And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So when they had assembled, Pilate said to them, "Which one do you want me to release to you, Barabbas, or Jesus called Christ?" For he knew that it was out of envy that they had handed him over. While he was still seated on the bench, his wife sent him a message, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man. I suffered much in a dream today because of him." The chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas but to destroy Jesus. The governor said to them in reply, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" They answered, Barabbas!" Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified!" But he said, "Why? What evil has he done?" They only shouted the louder, "Let him be crucified!" When Pilate saw that he was not succeeding at all, but that a riot was breaking out instead, he took water and washed his hands in the sight of the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this

man's blood.

Look to it yourselves." And the whole people said in reply, "His blood be upon us and upon our children." Then he released Barabbas to them, but after he had Jesus scourged, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus inside the praetorium and gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped off his clothes and threw a scarlet military cloak about him. Weaving a crown out of thorns, they placed it on his head, and a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat upon him and took the reed and kept striking him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the cloak, dressed him in his own clothes, and led him off to crucify him. As they were going out, they met a Cyrenian named Simon; this man they pressed into service to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha, which means Place of the Skull, they gave Jesus wine to drink mixed with gall. But when he had tasted it, he refused to drink. After they had crucified him, they divided his garments by casting lots; then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And they placed over his head the written charge against him: This is Jesus, the King of the Jews. Two revolutionaries were crucified with him, one on his right and the other on his left. Those passing by reviled him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, if you are the Son of God, and come down from the cross!" Likewise the chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him and said, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. So he is the king of Israel! Let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now if he wants him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" The revolutionaries who were crucified with him also kept abusing him in the same way. From noon onward, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Some of the bystanders who heard it said, "This one is calling for Elijah." Immediately one of them ran to get a sponge; he soaked it in wine, and putting it on a reed, gave it to him to drink. But the rest said, "Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to save him." But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and gave up his spirit. And behold, the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth quaked, rocks were split, tombs were opened, and the bodies of many saints who had fallen asleep were raised. And coming forth from their tombs after his resurrection, they entered the holy city and appeared to many. The centurion and the men with him who were keeping watch over Jesus feared greatly when they saw the earthquake and all that was happening, and they said, "Truly, this was the Son of God!" **The Gospel of the Lord**

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

New members are asked to register at the Parish Office in the Mercy Center.

We invite all parishioners to join a ministry.
Contact the Chairperson of the ministry or call the Parish Office at
804.843.3125

ALTAR SERVERS
Joe Drexler 843-2541
liturgychair@olbs-catholic.org

ARTS & ENVIRONMENT
Rowena & Tom Fauber 725-6110
artsenvironment@olbs-catholic.org

BELL CHOIR

CANTORS/CHOIR
Leda Zaginaylo 757 870-2516
music@olbs-catholic.org

CEMETERY COMMITTEE
Gary Silvia 757-303-8576
ceemeterychair@olbs-catholic.org

CHURCH HISTORIAN
Linda Drexler 843-2451
historian@olbs-catholic.org

CLEANING COORDINATOR

COMMUNITY LIFE

FACILITIES COMMITTEE
Jim Pyne
facilitieschair@olbs-catholic.org

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Richard Duke 843-3125
financechair@olbs-catholic.org

HISPANIC MINISTRY
Nanci Hernandez
Jose Velasquez
hispanicministry@olbs-catholic.org

HOSPITALITY
Glenn & Kay Shaw 843-3476

JUSTICE & PEACE

KNIT, PURL & PRAY
Linda Drexler 843-2541
Donna Geron 843-2781

LAWN MOWING COMMITTEE
Eric Ellingson 843-2184
ericellingson@verizon.net

LIBRARY
Linda Drexler 843-2541
vintagenotes@verizon.net

LITURGY COMMITTEE
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liturgychair@olbs-catholic.org

MINISTRY SCHEDULING
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ministryscheduler@olbs-catholic.org

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS
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PARISH COUNCIL
Kim diLandro 804 814-8148
parishchair@olbs-catholic.org

SACRISTAN
Marguerite Sturtz 843-2175

YOUTH MINISTRY
Lorraine Ryalls 843-3125 ext 103
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4/2/2020

Parishioners of
Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament
Catholic Church

“[Those who trust in the Lord] are like a tree planted beside the water...
In the year of drought it shows no distress, but still produces fruit.” – Jeremiah 17:8

Dear parishioner,

May the peace of Christ be with you and your loved ones!

Preparations being put in place to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community present us with both challenges and opportunities. The priority of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church is to care for our families and minister to them in every way we can.

As you know, the Diocese of Richmond has suspended all public Masses until further notice. Bishop Knestout will be updating us regularly. You can check the diocesan website for these updates at <https://richmonddiocese.org/coronavirus/>.

Through all of this, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church will remain a community of faith that trusts in the Lord and shares His blessings with each other. We are moving forward with new ways to minister to our parish families, including:

1. **Utilizing our parish's presence on Facebook:** Please visit us there for the latest parish news, photos and other resources we are providing. This is also the best place to check in with each other, share prayer requests and continue to live as a community. Our Facebook page is at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/237765969363/>. (For those who are not yet on Facebook, all you will need is your name, your email address, and a birthdate. Once you have established your account, look for our Facebook with the 200 Year Logo from the Diocese prominently displayed. Once you click on the blue "Join" button, a request to join will be sent to Eric Ellingson, the administrator. He is very quick to add us and then you will receive a notification to your email address that you have been accepted and the email will have a link for you to view the site. It is as simple as that. If you have any questions or need any help, please let us know.)
2. **Celebrating livestreamed Masses:** Updates and links will be available on our parish Facebook page and website at www.olbs-catholic.org.

We are committed to making the most of this time and help draw families closer to Christ. In times of crisis, people look to Christ and his Church. Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church will be here to serve. Our parish office will be open regular hours on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10:00am until 4:30pm each day. Please don't hesitate to call if you need anything we can help you with.

There are three things that I'm asking you to do right now, *today*:

1. **Pray.** Remember God does not abandon his children. Please join me in praying for the following:
 - All the sick and suffering around the world, and families affected by the coronavirus
 - Those who are struggling financially because of this crisis
 - First responders, medical personal and all government leaders
 - Our parish, our bishop and the Holy Father in Rome
2. **Follow us on Facebook.** Go to Facebook and search for Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in West Point. Click to "follow" us and "like" our page. You will be connected to posts and information about live Masses online and be able to interact with our community.
3. **Continue to support our parish - online.** I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the continued financial stewardship of parishioners and friends during this difficult time. Thank you to all who either have mailed or dropped off their contributions. With public Masses suspended, I am asking every family who has the ability to move their financial support online:
 - a. You can find giving options online at <https://offertory.richmonddiocese.org/> . On the giving page, choose Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament 623 in the dropdown list.
 - b. Please consider setting up a recurring gift to help our parish for the future.

If you need assistance with online giving, please contact Father Oscar Paraiso at 757-778-5118, Pam Watkins at 804-843-3125, or Bob Ryalls at 757-207-0215. Your gifts will support Campus/Church maintenance, ministry programs, staff salaries, and other endeavors in which our Parish is engaged. God bless you for your generosity!

I will continue to provide updates, primarily through our parish Facebook page, on our website and occasionally through email.

Please know that you are in my prayers and I am grateful for your prayers. Have faith! Let us rally together behind what is most important in our lives – God, family, and our Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish community.

In Christ,


Fr. Oscar Paraiso

OUR PARISH IS HERE FOR YOU



DURING THIS TIME OF SOCIAL DISTANCING, WE ARE COMMITTED TO CONTINUE SERVING OUR PARISHIONERS THROUGH OUR MINISTRIES AND OTHER RESOURCES



OUR MINISTRIES

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament will continue to be a source of spiritual life for our parishioners and friends.

We have a small group of volunteers starting to contact parishioners, starting with our older parishioners. Our plan to contact the entire parish to check in and pray with you. If someone needs follow-up or assistance - like delivering groceries - we will come up with a plan to help.

Our plan will include confirming parishioners have internet access and email. We want to make sure you have access to the parish's latest information.

SACRAMENTS

The parish will live-stream **Mass** through our Facebook page.

Reconciliation is available by appointment.

Baptisms and **funerals** are still conducted with groups of 10 or less.

FOLLOW US

"Like" and "Follow" our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/237765969363/>. We will share updates and news, as well as provide interactive ministries such as prayers and reflections.

GIVE ONLINE

Please consider supporting your parish by making a recurring gift online at <https://offertory.richmonddiocese.org>.

We are answering the office phone during the weekdays of Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays between 10:00am and 4:30pm.

Father is available for emergencies and time-sensitive needs: 757-778-5118

2020 OLBS INDOOR YARD SALE IS STILL ON.

DATE CHANGED!!!

PLACE: VAN BOOGAARD HALL

COLLECTION PERIOD: JULY 20 – 24

YARD SALE DATE: JULY 25

VOLUNTEERS WILL BE CONTACTED BY PHONE IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO DETERMINE ASSIGNMENTS BASED ON CAPABILITIES AND AVAILABILITY

WE NEED EVERYONE TO HELP GATHER ITEMS THAT WILL SELL. GO THROUGH YOUR ATTIC, BASEMENT, GARAGE AND SET ASIDE ITEMS TO DONATE. CHECK WITH FRIENDS AND RELATIVES WHO ARE DOING SPRING CLEANING WHILE WE ARE ALL SOCIAL DISTANCING AND STAYING CLOSE TO HOME.

ALL MUST BE CLEAN, GENTLY USED OR NEW.

NO ADULT CLOTHING. NO MATTRESSES OR BED PILLOWS UNLESS IN ORIGINAL SEALS (ILLEGAL TO SELL)

SUGGESTED ITEMS:

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING AND TOYS

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS (BOTH KITCHEN AND DECORATIVE)

SMALL FURNITURE ITEMS

TOOLS (YARD, HAND, AND ELECTRIC)

BOOKS, RECORDS, CDs and DVDs

COSTUME JEWELRY

STORAGE CONTAINERS

ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT MARY LEIGH MCDONALD (804-769-2483 or marymcdonald2308@gmail.com), TIFFANY SMITH (804-840-7984 or smith.tiffany86@gmail.com) or NATALEE FRANZYSHEN (757-566-0154 or gunmnt99@aol.com)